



Cabinet
Tuesday, 6th December, 2016 at 5.30 pm
in the Committee Suite, King's Court, Chapel Street,
King's Lynn

Reports marked to follow on the Agenda and/or Supplementary Documents

1. **MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET FROM OTHER BODIES** (Pages 2 - 3)

To receive any comments and recommendations from other Council bodies which meet after the dispatch of this agenda.

Contact

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET – 6 DECEMBER 2016 FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY PANEL MEETING ON 23 NOVEMBER 2016 AND THE REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL MEETING ON 30 NOVEMBER 2016

EC55: Review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Procedures and Conditions

The Licensing Manager presented the report to Cabinet which proposed amendments to the Borough Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Procedures and Conditions.

The Licensing Manager outlined the proposed changes as contained in his report which included introducing a section on safeguarding to the Council's knowledge test, changes to the providers who taxi drivers could undertake the DSA Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Test Assessment with, removal of the condition relating to window tints, and the necessity for MOT's and Council's Compliance Test.

The Licensing Manager informed the Panel that the Council had offered Safeguarding Awareness Workshops to all Taxi and Private Hire drivers and 88% of the trade had attended, on a voluntary basis, one of the sessions offered. The Licensing Manager explained that the adoption of the new proposals would enable action to be taken against the 12% who had not yet attended a session to ensure that all drivers have completed the training.

The Licensing Manager highlighted Appendix 1 of his report which detailed comments received from the trade as part of the consultation exercise. Five responses had been received.

The Chairman thanked the Licensing Manager for his report and invited questions and comments from the Panel, as summarised below.

Councillor D Tyler, Chairman of the Licensing and Appeals Board, addressed the Panel under Standing Order 34. He thanked the Licensing Manager for his report, which he felt was very clear. He explained that it was important that the Council had regard to safeguarding, especially in relation to children and vulnerable people. He asked the Panel to support the recommendations as set out in the report.

In response to questions regarding the Safeguarding Training, the Licensing Manager explained that the training was one hour long. He felt that any longer than this could discourage drivers from attending. He reminded the Panel that drivers attended on a voluntary basis and would have to take time out from work. The Licensing Manager stated that he was satisfied with the training, which primarily had focussed on children and vulnerable people. The Licensing Manager reminded the Panel that if the revised conditions were approved, safeguarding would be incorporated into the Borough Council's Knowledge Test and drivers would have to answer questions on the subject. The Licensing Manager also confirmed that there was no financial impact to the Council on the changes regarding Private Companies offering the DSA test. He explained that drivers would book and pay for the course themselves and provide proof of passing the test to the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Environment and Community Panel support the recommendations to Cabinet as set out below:

That Council adopt the revised licensing procedures and conditions.

RD81: EXEMPT - Cabinet Report - Nar Ouse Business Park Enterprise Zone Implementation

The Regeneration and Economic Development Manager and Regeneration Programmes Manager presented the Cabinet report which outlined the arrangements and approvals required for delivery of the Enterprise Zone to facilitate development of the employment land at the Nar Ouse Business Park.

The Panel received a presentation from the Regeneration and Economic Development Manager and Regeneration Programmes Manager which included detail of the actions required in order to implement the Enterprise Zone, planning and permissions required and associated costs and returns. The Panel was informed that planning options would require Cabinet approval and would be presented to the Regeneration and Development Panel for consideration.

The Chairman thanked the Regeneration and Economic Development Manager and the Regeneration Programmes Manager for the report and invited questions and comments from the Panel.

Councillor Pope addressed the Panel under Standing Order 34. He made reference to the finance arrangements and the Business rates thresholds. The Regeneration and Economic Development Manager explained the thresholds for the rates of discounts and explained that the Cabinet report set out the amendments to the Treasury Management Strategy.

The Regeneration and Economic Development Manager and Regeneration Programmes Manager responded to questions regarding finance, business rates discounts and infrastructure work required.

RESOLVED: That the Regeneration and Development Panel support the recommendations to Cabinet as set out in the report.